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SERIAL NUMBER	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
07/702,463	05/02/91	SMITH	M DPC:3099 (S)

EXAMINER
BLUM, T

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FALLS CHURCH, VA 22041

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2202	7

DATE MAILED: 03/13/92

This is a communication from the examiner in charge of your application.  
COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS

This application has been examined  Responsive to communication filed on \_\_\_\_\_  This action is made final.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 6 month(s), \_\_\_\_\_ days from the date of this letter.  
Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. 35 U.S.C. 133

Part I THE FOLLOWING ATTACHMENT(S) ARE PART OF THIS ACTION:

1.  Notice of References Cited by Examiner, PTO-892.
2.  Notice re Patent Drawing, PTO-948.
3.  Notice of Art Cited by Applicant, PTO-1449.
4.  Notice of Informal Patent Application, Form PTO-152.
5.  Information on How to Effect Drawing Changes, PTO-1474.
6.  \_\_\_\_\_

Part II SUMMARY OF ACTION

1.  Claims 1-6 are pending in the application.

Of the above, claims \_\_\_\_\_ are withdrawn from consideration.

2.  Claims \_\_\_\_\_ have been cancelled.

3.  Claims \_\_\_\_\_ are allowed.

4.  Claims 1-6 are rejected.

5.  Claims \_\_\_\_\_ are objected to.

6.  Claims \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

7.  This application has been filed with informal drawings under 37 C.F.R. 1.85 which are acceptable for examination purposes.

8.  Formal drawings are required in response to this Office action.

9.  The corrected or substitute drawings have been received on \_\_\_\_\_. Under 37 C.F.R. 1.84 these drawings are  acceptable.  not acceptable (see explanation or Notice re Patent Drawing, PTO-948).

10.  The proposed additional or substitute sheet(s) of drawings, filed on \_\_\_\_\_ has (have) been  approved by the examiner.  disapproved by the examiner (see explanation).

11.  The proposed drawing correction, filed on \_\_\_\_\_, has been  approved.  disapproved (see explanation).

12.  Acknowledgment is made of the claim for priority under U.S.C. 119. The certified copy has  been received  not been received  been filed in parent application, serial no. \_\_\_\_\_; filed on \_\_\_\_\_

13.  Since this application appears to be in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

14.  Other

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**FOREIGN GOVERNMENT INFORMATION**  
EXAMINER'S ACTION

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Art Unit 2202

(U) 1. The declaration filed June 2, 1991.

(U) 2. Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

As to claims 1 and 3, "at or near" is indefinite.

Claims 2 and 4-6 depend from an indefinite antecedent claim.

(U) 3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103 which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Subject matter developed by another person, which qualifies as prior art only under subsection (f) and (g) of section 102 of this title, shall not preclude patentability under this section where the subject matter and the claimed invention were, at the time the invention was made, owned by the same person or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same person.

(C) 4. Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Schiavone in view of Boys et al.

Schiavone teaches a "sea surface" antenna including metallic material 16 and 18, and longitudinal slot 10 coupled "at or near" its midpoint to feed line 30. The slot is bridged by two pluralities of capacitances 28. Boys et al teaches a tubular slot antenna where the slot is shorted at both ends. Obviously the Schiavone slot antenna can have

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Art Unit 2202

a tubular shape in view of column 1, lines 20-24 of the Boy et al patent.

(U) 5. The Bogner and Rademakers patents are cited to show various antennas.

(U) 6. An inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Theodore Blum at telephone number 703-308-0481.

Blum/03-05-92

*Theodore M. Blum*  
THEODORE M. BLUM  
EXAMINER  
GROUP ART UNIT 222